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### (54) Packet monitoring system

(57) A packet monitoring system includes nodes, a monitor node, and a network management system. The nodes are connected to the same network and assigned different addresses. The nodes switch packets in which destination addresses in the network are written, in accordance with the destination addresses. The monitor node is assigned a unique address different from the addresses of the nodes. The network management system issues a request for a packet to the nodes. The request from the network management system contains the unique address of the monitor node. Each of the nodes copies the packet before switching the packet, and transmits the copied packet to the monitor node in accordance with the unique address contained in the packet request from the network management system. The monitor node monitors the copied packet from each of the nodes.

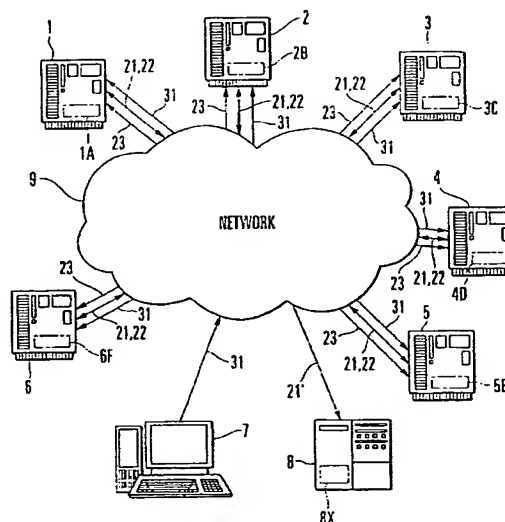


FIG. 1

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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 02 01 6218

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A	EP 0 652 523 A (NIPPON ELECTRIC CO) 10 May 1995 (1995-05-10) * abstract * * figure 1 * * claims 1-3 * * column 1, line 5-9 * * column 1, line 58 - column 2, line 54 * * column 3, line 20 - column 3, line 55 * * column 4, line 53 - column 5, line 20 * ---	1-7	
A	US 5 504 863 A (YOSHIDA KOJUN) 2 April 1996 (1996-04-02) * abstract * * claim 1 * * column 1, line 51 - column 2, line 30 * * column 3, line 14-48 * * column 4, line 35-49 * * column 5, line 19-30 * -----	1-7	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) H04L
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Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 3 December 2003	Examiner Cichra, M
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82